

based on “From Him, Through Him, To Him” by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

1. How is this theologically-dense passage so foundational to what it means to be a true woman of God?

It provides a framework—a context—for our lives as women. It gives us a fixed reference point for our hearts. It tethers our hearts to God’s ultimate eternal purposes.

2. What is the specific context of the final chapters leading up to Romans 11:33–36? What is the apostle Paul so in awe of?

The mysteries of God’s sovereign, electing grace—His plan for redeeming both Jews and Gentiles. God is able to make even the unbelief and rebellion of man serve His final, eternal purposes. Even the sinful choices of human beings in the end will glorify God and demonstrate the greatness of His wisdom, His power, and His grace.

3. There is no limit to God’s wisdom and knowledge. As Nancy mentioned, He knows **everything**—everything about your past, your present, and your future. He knows your family situation, your challenges, your sins, and your insecurities. What does this truth do for you?

The wisdom of God knows how to deal with your situation, as complex, convoluted, and impossible as it may seem.

4. How does this fact—that God’s ways are inscrutable, or incapable of being understood—affect your life?

As Piper says, “God is always doing a thousand different things that you cannot see and you do not know.” We can *know* that God is at work. We can’t begin to fathom the means God has devised to fulfill His holy purposes!

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5. Paul asks three rhetorical questions in vv. 34–35: “Who has known the mind of the Lord?”; “Who has been His counselor?”; “Who has given a gift to God, that he should be repaid?” The resounding answer is **no one**. Which of these three questions describes your current or past approach to God? Are you judging God for something you don’t like or understand? Are you expecting something from God that you think He owes you? Are you trying to counsel God about how to handle a specific situation? If so, how?
6. How would people be able to tell if you truly believed that God owed you nothing, but that you owed Him everything?
They would see that I was free of criticism, doubt, fear, anger, second-guessing, arguing, or disputing God’s choices.
7. What truth(s) can help us when God’s ways don’t make sense to us—when they’re hard, painful, and confusing?
Remember Jesus. For Him, the ways of God meant divesting Himself of His rights, experiencing rejection, ridicule, and ultimately death on a cross—in order to fulfill God’s awesome purpose of canceling the record of debt against us. Remember that life only comes out of death. As Nancy said, “We want the end result, but we don’t necessarily want the process that it takes to get that—the process of brokenness, humility, emptiness, utter awareness of need.”
8. Do you agree with the following statement? Why or why not? “To resist or to resent the circumstances and situation in which you find yourself, is ultimately to resent and resist God Himself.”
9. Nancy’s three implications from this passage are that 1) a true woman lives a God-centered life; 2) a true woman trusts God; and 3) a true woman says, “Yes, Lord.” You don’t have to share her name, but is there a true woman you know who exhibits this kind of trust in God? If so, how have you seen this kind of God-centeredness on display?
10. As you say, “Yes, Lord,” what are some of the things you’re saying yes to, and what are some of the things He’s calling you to say “No” to? ☪